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Jun 21, 2008 5:45 pm US/Central



RNC Actively Recruiting Thousands Of Volunteers



(WCCO) In less than three months, thousands will be coming to the Twin Cities for the Republican National Convention. For an event that big, you also need thousands of people to

The convention runs September 1 through 4 at the Xcel Energy Center. Right now, the Host Committee is busily recruiting more than 10,000 volunteers.

"I'm a supporter of Obama, I'm a Democrat," said convention volunteer Laura Peterson

"I'm very bi-partisan." said convention volunteer Lisa Cotter Metwally

Both women set politics aside to be a part of the Republican National Convention.

"This is a chance of a lifetime for people in Minnesota," added Metwally

The call for thousands of convention volunteers really rang a bell for the owner of the Q Kindness cafe in St. Paul

"It's an opportunity of a lifetime. It's an historic event. It's a chance to be part of history," said Metwally

The stay-at-home mom plans to bring her past experience as a concierge to her volunteer duties.

"I think they're expecting 45,000 people and I'm assuming a large group of that has never been here before, so I'm very excited that they get to see our city and I want to be open and inviting to them," said Peterson.

The moment convention goers get off the plane, volunteers will welcome them. Others are needed at hotels and tour busses to greet and guide visitors.

Those who want to get closer to the convention action can sign up to be credential checkers at the Xcel Energy Center

"We're looking for people who are friendly Minnesotans. There's a lot to be said about "Minnesota nice" and this is our chance to really showcase that to the world," said volunteer coordinator Kjerstl Duncan.

No matter what political party you vote for

"I feel that people with differences can still work together and I feel like even though I'm not a member, I'm happy for them to be in our city," said Peterson.

If you would like to be a volunteer you can sign up until the end of June.



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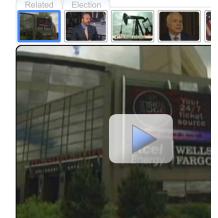
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